

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 1 and 5, without prejudice, as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) A method for manufacturing fiber bundles comprising:
 - transporting a fiber bundle using at least one feed element;
 - cutting the fiber bundle strand into unbound partial bundles, the unbound partial bundles having a length;
 - releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one feed element;
 - gripping the unbound partial bundles using at least one gripping element;
 - releasing the unbound partial bundles from the at least one gripping element;and
 - placing the unbound partial bundles in a first collection trough of a collection device

5. (Amended) The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising: rotating the collection device after the first collection trough is filled and placing the partial bundles in a further collection trough.

REMARKS

I. Introduction

Claims 1 and 5 are pending in the present application. In view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are allowable, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.